

Cooleemee Journal

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10 Cents

Sgt. Ridenhour Wins Bronze Star Medal For Heroism

Master Sergeant James A. Ridenhour, son of Mr. and Mrs. Cicero Ridenhour of 4 Watt Street, won the Bronze Star Medal for heroism and meritorious service while manning a communications station outside of Saigon, The Journal has learned.

Sergeant Ridenhour was presented his medal in ceremonies at Davis, California, by Lt. Col. Burton L. Anderson.

Sergeant Ridenhour enlisted in the Army in January 1948. Since then, he has served in Japan, Alaska, Korea and Vietnam as well as the United States.

He and his wife and two sons, Roger and Mickey, live at 1402 Duke Drive in Davis, California. He has three other sons, Jimmy, who lives in Newport News, Va.; J. D., who is serving in the Army in Germany; and Bobby, a Marine stationed in San Diego, Calif.



James Ridenhour

Turkey Shoot

Cooleemee Jaycees will hold a turkey shoot November 11 and 18. These will be held on the vacant lot across from Shopping Center next to the American Legion Cemetery. Turkey shoot will begin at 10 a.m. both Saturday mornings.

Mrs. Byerly Critically Hurt

Mrs. Heathman Byerly of Davie Street was critically injured and Mr. Byerly was less seriously injured when a train hit their car at a crossing in Charlotte yesterday morning.

Both are patients at Charlotte Memorial Hospital. Mrs. Byerly has a broken arm, broken pelvis and was suffering from shock yesterday. Mr. Byerly was not believed to have been seriously injured.

According to word received at The Journal, just before our press time yesterday, the light was flashing at the crossing. Two cars went across safely. Mr. Byerly tried to make it but got hit by the engine.

Details of the accident and a report on Mrs. Byerly's condition will be found in today's Salisbury Post.

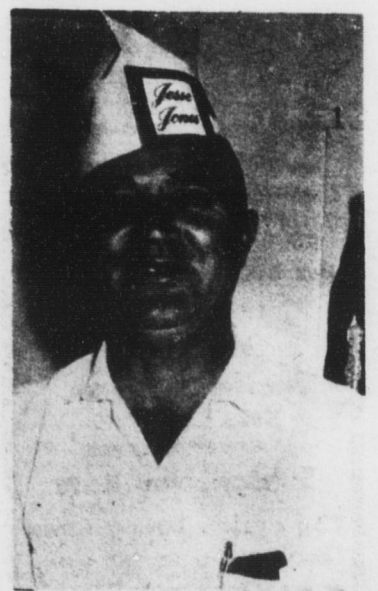
Chin Chopper's Back Home, Buys U-Stop-N Grill

Grimes (Chin Chopper) Hancock has traded in his policeman's badge for an apron.

He just couldn't stand it away from Cooleemee any longer so he's coming home.

Grimes, former East Spencer chief of police, resigned that post and has bought the U-Stop-N Grill in North Cooleemee. He plans to move his family back in the near future.

It was quite a shock to see an apron tied around Chin Chopper's waist in place of the .38 he has worn for more than 12 years as a law enforcement officer.



Grimes Hancock



Mrs. Spry with Delaine Vestal, 2.

Mrs. J. B. Spry

At 67, Children Keep Her Young

By MARLENE BENSON
News Editor

Mrs. J. B. Spry Sr. a Cooleemee native, leads a very active life at 67 years of age and loves every minute of it.

In 1957 her husband built a fishing pond and little store, then turned them over to her to take care of. Many local fishermen have spent a great deal of their leisure time on the banks of this pond. Most of them pay 25 cents, in addition to the regular fishing fee, into a kitty that enables them to qualify for the jackpot prize. This money is awarded to the first person that catches a fish weighing 25 pounds or over.

Roscoe Jones won a \$200 jackpot in May with a 26½ pound carp and Jim Adams' catch topped the scales at 35 pounds in August for another \$200 prize. The current jackpot stands unclaimed with \$140.

The fish pond has been a lot of pleasure for Mrs. Spry and for the past three years has shown a little profit. The store, which was first stocked with only \$25, has built up considerably. There are candy, crackers, snacks and drinks for the fishermen and many other useful household items.

In addition to the fishing pond and store, Mrs. Spry, has 200 hens that she takes care of. Of course, they must be fed and watered daily as well as gathering the eggs, which she

sells to a lot of local people.

TAKES CARE OF NINE

This could be enough to keep the average person busy, but not Mrs. Spry. The most important thing in her life is taking care of children, so she baby sits, too. Although she has raised 11 children of her own, has 30 grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren, she still has enough love for the seven little ones that she keeps five days a week.

One week out of every month she has two more, her grandchildren, that she keeps overnight, dresses and sends them to school the next morning. During this week their parents are working the second shift and grandmother is delighted in having them. This makes a total of nine children.

Mrs. Spry has been a baby sitter for years, but in the past several months has accepted this as a regular job. Many parents of the children she keeps have asked how she managed to do all the work she does, how she ever gets her regular housework done and if the children ever got on her nerves?

"I do my housework the best I can," explained Mrs. Spry, "and the children, I love them and they love me. I guess I just have different nerves. Most of the children call me grandmother," she continued, "except the smallest ones and they can't say grandmother, so they call me mamaw."

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